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Approved For Release 2000/06/13 : CIA-RDP80B01138A000100080007-9

3 November 1969

The Honorable Ray S. Cline
Director
Bureau of Intelligence and Research
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Ray:

Enclosed is a copy of our study on the effectiveness of ABM collectors. As you know, this study was undertaken at the request of the Bureau of the Budget in 1967 and the addressees of this letter were established as a committee to oversee its preparation. I would like to take this opportunity to express the thanks of the Director of Central Intelligence and my own to those who have contributed to this difficult, complex and protracted work. [REDACTED] deserves our appreciation for his patient and competent efforts to bring it to completion. 25X1A

Obviously the study has its limitations. A methodology has yet to be devised which will appeal to everyone as ideally calculated to provide an objective basis for the evaluation of intelligence activities. The particular methodology developed in this study can certainly be attacked as imperfect. We would welcome proposals from any component of the community for new or different approaches to the evaluation problem generally or for changes and improvements in this specific methodology.

In the absence of some better concept, however, I urge that we proceed to a very serious consideration of this one. The urgency of the need for some satisfactory method for establishing our intelligence needs and determining the resources and activities best calculated to meet these needs can hardly be exaggerated.

The results of this study show: how much we now know about the Soviet ABM system; how much we might expect to know for up to

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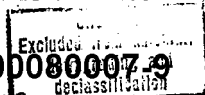
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five years in the future with different combinations of existing and programmed collection systems; and how well the individual and several classes of collectors do or might be expected to do. Moreover, the study has the virtue of providing specific quantitative measures of a kind not heretofore available to the intelligence community. Of possible consequence for the longer run is that the conceptual approach has potential for broader application.

This last consideration brings me to Recommendation 4, which proposes application of a comparable conceptual approach to all intelligence needs and all collection systems. To facilitate consideration of this Recommendation, I have also enclosed one tentative structure of intelligence needs and their relative values.

I should greatly appreciate your views and comments on the study and its recommendations (which can be addressed to Dr. Oldham) and any proposals that occur to you for improving its methodology or by way of specific alternatives. Hopefully these comments will reach us before the end of November. The Director of Central Intelligence has asked me to submit the study to the National Intelligence Resources Board with a request for their comments and recommendations.

Sincerely,

/s/ John A. Bross

John A. Bross

Attachments (2)

This letter also sent to:

Director, NRO
Director, DIA
Director, NSA
DDR&E
Acting Assistant Secretary/SA, DOD

NIPE:JAB:dm

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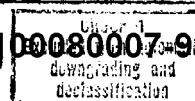
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